

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 01/20459

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 : G01N35/02 G01N35/04 B01L9/00 B01L7/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N B01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 054 263 A (SHOPES ROBERT JAMES ET AL) 25 April 2000 (2000-04-25) abstract; figures 1,3 column 4, line 45 -column 4, line 49 column 5, line 24 -column 5, line 30 column 5, line 44 -column 5, line 50 column 5, line 59 -column 5, line 67	1-5,9, 17-24,31
Y	---	16,29,33
Y	GB 2 343 873 A (BAYER AG ;JENOPTIK JENA GMBH (DE)) 24 May 2000 (2000-05-24) abstract; claims 1-3; figures 1,4 page 1, line 4 -page 1, line 31 page 9, line 35 -page 10, line 9	16,29,33
A	---	1,24
	-/--	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

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"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

15 May 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/05/2002

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, A	<p>EP 1 088 590 A (TECAN AG)  4 April 2001 (2001-04-04)</p> <p>abstract; figure 4  column 3, line 10 -column 3, line 50  -----</p>	<p>1, 13, 24,  29, 31,  35, 36</p>

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Information on patent family members

International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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			EP 0733098 A1	25-09-1996
			JP 9510863 T	04-11-1997
			WO 9511294 A1	27-04-1995
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			US 6343906 B1	05-02-2002
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			JP 2001149801 A	05-06-2001
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